

1341 Collogo Point
Winter Park, FL 32789

January 22, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am aware that a settlement has been reached in the Justice Department's three-year case against Microsoft. I support the settlement even though I don't believe that the government, MY GOVERNMENT, should have even recognized the complaints of their competitors in the first place. I think it is in the government's, and our best interests to accept the settlement and move on to more important matters.

If it wasn't for Microsoft, I would not be as computer literate as I am today, and I'm just an ordinary citizen who has had no training, no schooling in use of a computer. I know that there are gazillions (my word for lots and lots) of middle aged and older Americans who have had to learn to use this technology on their own. Microsoft products made it easy, non-threatening and affordable. Their products caused the huge number of purchases of personal computers and associated items, that drove our country's economic success and increased productivity in the '90's. I think it is sad that they are being penalized for America's success.

The terms of the settlement are reasonable, despite my objection that this case should not have been brought to court in the first place. Microsoft is making changes to prevent any future antitrust practices. It has agreed to establish a three-person technical committee which will monitor Microsoft's compliance with the settlement. Microsoft will use a uniform price list when licensing Windows out to the largest 20 computer makers in the United States. They have agreed to document and disclose for use by its competitors various interfaces that are internal to Windows' operating system products

I ask that the government stop spending my resources to penalize Microsoft's success and agree to the settlement terms.


Nancy Braden

cc: Representative Ric Keller